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"INDIVIDUALISM AND ALTRUISM."

"C. N. B." wrote a notable article recently, under the above heading. This week he has a paragraph upon the same topic which will fix attention by reason of its terseness and austerity of truth.

To give a practical turn to his line of thought, may it not be said, with truth, that the issue of the age is between the "God of Individualism" and the "Devil of Individualism"? Skirmishing by the outposts of the opposing forces, here, there and yonder, give token of this, and there can be no doubt of the result, in the near or remote future.

In every civilized country, the right of this reign of "Individualism" is being disputed. And never before in the world's history have such remarkable movements arisen of profound inquiry and assault in this direction. Nihilism in the vast empire where Right has been most annihilated, philosophical Communism in enlightened France, Sociology and Socialism in enquiring England and deep-thoughted Germany, with comminglings of them all in our own country, are simply the protests of advancing Civilization against the arrogant overreaching of Individualism, the final and complete overthrow of which is inevitable. Republican France and Republican America, the two great nations whose ideas of government approach nearest to "Altruism," are to-day the only governments which, as such, stand secure and unassailed. They have had their revolutions, and more than any other two countries, have fought the fight and gained the victory over centralization in government and privileges in classes. And between them, aided by progressive thought in England and Germany, they seem destined to exert an influence for the good of mankind which will evolutionize and revolutionize the world. Imperialism is doomed everywhere. French Bourbonism and Napoleonism are past resurrection. "Strong government," "coin basis" and similar relics of barbarism on this side of the Atlantic, may struggle for re-establishment, but without avail. Truth, Progress, Education and their outcomes—sociological development and ultimately Altruism, as opposed to the slavery of Individualism—are the watchwords of to-day.

And here it may be well to say that a recent article in this paper has been criticised, not that it was not *true*, but that it was premature—in advance of the times, and the like. We venture to ask, how much civilization would the world have seen; what progress would the race have made, if none in the past had thought, or written, or talked ahead of their time?

Our American Revolution was not "premature," nor was the French Revolution of '89, save that the people of France, in the mass, were not then educated up to a standard making possible permanent self-government. Hence the reactionary and retrograde movements in politics and society which marked her career from Bonaparte the Great to Bonaparte the Little. As her wars under the first Napoleon were the legitimate fruit of a blind enthusiasm, an infatuated adhesion to Individualism—and delayed for many years the political advancement and the social emancipation of the French, so the past, in regard to both economic and theologic doctrines, is manifestly obstructing and delaying the establishment of Divine Truth and Human Equity in the world at large.

But the time is coming when Individualism and its self-seeking ministers will be dethroned, and when those whose pens and tongues

"Drop manna, and can make the worse appear. The better reason, to perplex and dash Main's counsels."

will have lost their power to deceive and enslave the people.

Essex County Taxes.

The Board of Assessors met in Newark on Monday to apportion the County tax upon the cities and townships and to fix the rate of taxation. At the meeting of the Board held in March last, a committee consisting of Messrs. Cowdry, Blume, Simpson and Oakes was appointed to examine and make a report respecting the valuation of property. This Committee recommended an increase of 20 per cent. to be made to Montclair township, and reductions were made in other cases as follows:

South Orange	\$100,000
East Orange	875,000
Millburn	825,000
City of Orange	850,000
and at larger	883,000
of the latter sum \$15,000 were given to Caldwell	\$30,000 to Clinton, and \$15,000 to Livingston.

The valuations of the various townships were then reported as follows:

Township	Real	Personal	Indemnity
Orange	\$96,000	\$150,000	\$20,000
West Orange	100,000	120,000	5,000
East Orange	1,075,000	215,000	26,000
Millburn	2,123,000	813,000	85,000
Caldwell	509,000	70,000	none
Clinton	998,000	144,000	6,000
Livingston	1,349,000	151,000	none
Clarendon	516,000	76,000	4,000
West Orange	937,000	119,000	none
Millburn	968,000	161,000	4,000
Livingston	938,000	171,000	4,000
West Orange	2,180,000	219,000	4,000
South Orange	1,792,000	245,000	13,000
Montclair	1,851,000	154,000	none
Newark	55,333,273	18,985,841	1,429,336
Total county	\$86,719,275	\$19,814,845	\$1,679,832

Mr. Howe, the Assessor of Montclair, made earnest objection to the advance made upon the valuation of his township, but the action was not changed, it being regarded that the growth and improvements made at Montclair fully demanded the increase of valuation. A resolution was however passed that Assessor Howe of Montclair was not responsible for the addition by the Board of 20 per cent., or \$300,000, to the valuation of Montclair, but that it was caused by the inefficiency of previous assessors.

The tax rate of the county was fixed at a fraction less than 70 cents on every \$100. In 1878 the total valuation of the county was \$108,826,000, and the county tax rate 70 cents on every \$100. On motion of Tax Commissioner Couney of Newark, the Board resolved, "That in the opinion of this Board it will be the duty of the next Legislature to repeat the new permitting individuals to offset their debts against the valuation of their real estate," and that the Senator and Assemblymen from Essex County be requested to use their utmost efforts to accomplish that end. On motion of Tax Commissioner Buchanan of Newark it was resolved "That the Board recommend to the State Tax Commissioner to provide for taxation of personal property, exclusive of bank stock wherever found."

Town Committee.

On Wednesday evening the Town Committee met and decided to divide the township into three polling districts, under provisions of the law passed by the Legislature of 1879. The first district includes the central part of the township, bounded as follows: Beginning in the center of Linden avenue at the Montclair line, thence running through Linden, Glenwood and Washington avenues to Bloomfield avenue at the Center, thence down Bloomfield avenue to the Second River, through the same to the Belleville line, along that to the N. Y. and Greenwood Lake Railroad, thence by that line to Montclair township line, and thence to the place of beginning in Linden avenue.

The Second District comprises all that part of the township lying north of the N. Y. & L. G. Railway. The Third District is the remainder of the township not included in the first and second districts.

The polling places and election officers, by appointment and confirmation of the Town Committee, are as follows:

1st CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Polling Place, Lodge Election, Clerk " Inspector "

2d OR NORTHERN DISTRICT.

Judging Place, Clerk " Inspector "

3d OR SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

Polling Place, Ice Co. Office, R. A. Hall, Clerk " Inspector "

Alex. C. Marr, elected Collector, but who had failed to qualify within the legal time, was appointed to the office and his bond accepted, subject to proper corrections.

The Gas Assessment question was taken up, when Mr. Cockefair moved that no appropriation be made. The motion was seconded but upon being put to vote, defeated.

It was then moved by Mr. Farrand that an assessment of \$5,600 be made for gas lighting. This being seconded, a vote was taken, resulting in a tie, Messrs. Dodd and Farrand voting for the assessment and Messrs. Cockefair and Cadmus against it. Chairman Hayes

gave the decisive vote in favor of the assessment, and declared it carried—3 to 2.

Evasion of Taxes.

The action taken by the Board of Assessors in Newark last Monday, recommending to the Legislature that "property be taxed wherever found," and that the law permitting persons to swear off their indebtedness as an offset against the valuation of their property, be rejected to be greatly needed reform measures. It will be seen by reference to the table of valuations in another column, that Bloomfield leads the list in this matter of getting clear of taxation by reporting to the Assessor personal liabilities. The \$8,000 private indebtedness returned by this township to offset taxes is one-third of all the debts returned by the townships. A reference to the table of valuations in another column, that Bloomfield leads the list in this matter of getting clear of taxation by reporting to the Assessor personal liabilities. The \$8,000 private indebtedness returned by this township to offset taxes is one-third of all the debts returned by the townships.

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